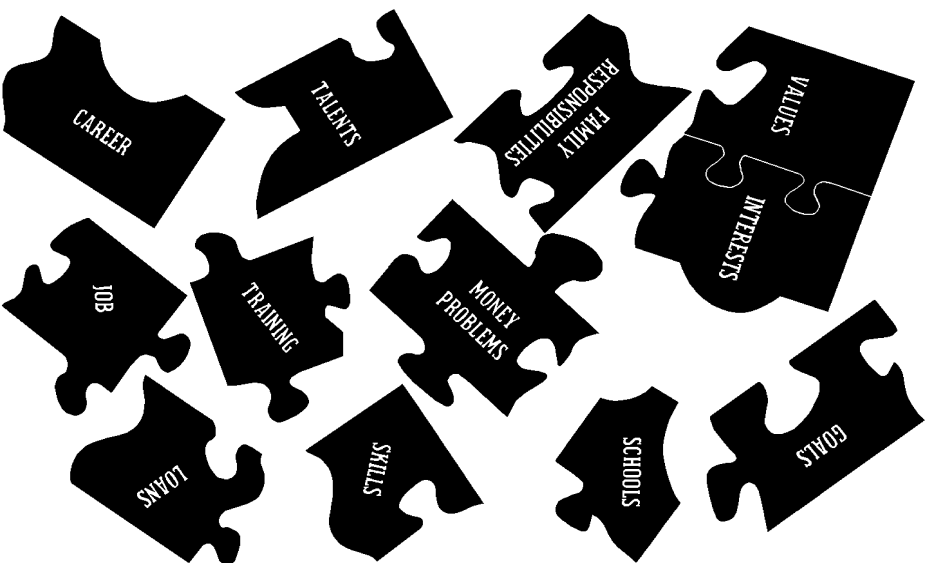


# VA Counseling Can Help You



YOUR DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
COUNSELING SERVICE CAN HELP YOU



Washington, DC 20420

Official Business  
Penalty for private use  
\$300.

## VA VOCATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL COUNSELING

### WHO can get counseling?

You can if you meet one of the following conditions:

- (a) You are a veteran or dependent eligible for educational benefits under a program that VA administers;
- (b) You were discharged or released from active duty under honorable conditions not more than 1 year ago; or
- (c) You are on active duty and 6 or less months remain before your scheduled release or discharge from service.

You can get counseling about any matters, including personal problems, related to:

- Career choice and preparation
- School or job-training
- Job selection and search

What is taken up in counseling depends on you and your situation and needs. You can learn more about yourself; career opportunities and requirements; training possibilities; sources of financial aid; and how to carry through on any plans you make.

If you need to get a job now, you can find out what jobs you qualify for and how to make an effective job search.

### And much, much more,

Most importantly, you can think these things through with an experienced and professionally qualified counselor.

**APPLICATION FOR COUNSELING**

Privacy Act Notice: The VA will not disclose information collected on this form to any source other than what has been authorized under the Privacy Act of 1974 or Title 5, Code of Federal Regulations 1.526 for routine uses (i.e., release to comply with a court order) as identified in the VA system of records, 58VA21/22, Compensation, Pension, Education and Rehabilitation Records - VA, and published in the Federal Register. Your obligation to respond is required to obtain or retain benefits. Giving us your SSN account information is voluntary. Refusal to provide your SSN by itself will not result in the denial of benefits. The VA will not deny an individual benefits for refusing to provide his or her SSN unless the disclosure of the SSN is required by a Federal Statute of law in effect prior to January 1, 1975, and still in effect. Information submitted is subject to verification through computer matching programs with other agencies.

Important Notice About Information Collection: We need this information to determine your eligibility for counseling. Section 501(a) of Title 38, United States Code, allows us to ask for this information. We estimate that you will need an average of 5 minutes to review the instructions, find the information, and complete this form. VA cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless a valid OMB control number is displayed. You are not required to respond to a collection of information if this number is not displayed. Valid OMB control numbers can be located on the OMB Internet Page at [www.whitehouse.gov/library/omb/OMBINVC.html#VA](http://www.whitehouse.gov/library/omb/OMBINVC.html#VA). If desired, you can call 1-800-827-1000 to get information on where to send comments or suggestions about this form.

1. FIRST NAME - MIDDLE NAME - LAST NAME OF VETERAN		2. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		3. VA FILE NUMBER (If known)	
4. MAILING ADDRESS (No. and street or rural route, city, State and ZIP Code)		5. HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER		6. WORK TELEPHONE NUMBER	
		7. DATE OF BIRTH		8. VA OFFICE WHERE RECORDS ARE LOCATED (If known)	
9. PERMANENT ADDRESS (If different than Item 4)				10. SEX <input type="checkbox"/> MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE	
11. SERVICE INFORMATION (Enter the following information for each period of active duty. Attach a copy of your DD 214. If you have sent VA a DD 214, do not send one with this application.)					
SERVICE NUMBER (Prefix and Suffix) (A)	BRANCH OF SERVICE (B)	DATE ENTERED ACTIVE DUTY (C)	DATE SEPARATED FROM ACTIVE DUTY (D)	TYPE OF SEPARATION OR DISCHARGE (E)	GRADE OR RANK AT SEPARATION OR DISCHARGE (F)
12. VA TRAINING BENEFITS PREVIOUSLY APPLIED FOR <input type="checkbox"/> A. NONE <input type="checkbox"/> B. VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION (Chapter 31) <input type="checkbox"/> C. EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR VETERANS (Under chapters other than Chapter 31) <input type="checkbox"/> D. DEPENDENTS' EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE (Chapter 35)					Do Not Write in This Space (VA Date Stamp)
I authorize release of school and testing records to VA for use in counseling me.					
13. DATE		14. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT (Sign in ink. Do not print)			
FOR VA USE ONLY ▶		CLAIM STATUS ▶		DATE REFERRED TO VR&E ▶	

VA FORM  
MAY 2003**28-8832**EXISTING STOCK OF VA FORM 28-8832, MAR 1993,  
WILL BE USED.**WHY counseling?**

Counseling can help you to make some important decisions and plans for your future on the basis of informed choice, not chance. Today's world of work is complicated. It is not easy to find work that will be satisfying and offer good pay and a good future. Counseling can help you get it together and come up with a pattern that fits you.

**HOW to get counseling?**

Complete the application on this form and send it to your nearest United States Department of Veterans Affairs office. If you have received a DD 214, you should also attach a copy of it unless you are still on active duty, your DD 214 is already on file with VA, or you are applying as a dependent of a veteran. VA will arrange for a counselor to meet with you. There is no charge for counseling, but you will have to pay for your own travel. (Note: Counseling is not available in foreign countries except the Republic of the Philippines.)

